REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed November 14, 2007. Following the amendments above, claims 28-31, 35, 52, 64-66, 74-78, and 91 are pending in this application. Claims 24-45 and 84 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 as having insufficient antecedent bases for reciting "said first and second dimensions." Claims 46, 48, 50-51, 53-59, 61-62, 85-86, 88-90, and 94 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,643,087 to Marcus et al ("Marcus") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,530,455 to Gillick et al ("Gillick"). Claims 24-27, 32-34, 36-45, 49, 60, 84, 87, and 92-93 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marcus in view of Gillick and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,589,828 to Armstrong ("Armstrong"). Claims 28-31, 35, 52, and 91 were objected to as being allowable, but dependent from a rejected base claim. Claims 64-66 and 74-78 were allowed.

Applicant has cancelled claims 24-27, 32-34, 36-51, 53-63, 67-73, 78-90, and 92-94 to expedite prosecution of this application. Applicant expressly reserves the right to re-present these and other claims in a future application.

Applicant has amended claims 28, 31, 35, 52, 74-78 and 91. No new matter is added by these amendments, and support may be found in the specification and claims as originally filed.

In view of the cancellation of all rejected claims, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all claims, and solicits a Notice of Allowance.

I. Claim Amendments – Claims 28, 31, 35, 52, and 91

Applicant has amended claims 28, 35, 52, and 91 to be independent claims incorporating all of the limitations of each claim from which they originally depended. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 28, 35, 52, and 91. Claims 29-31 each depend from claim 28, now an independent claim. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to claims 29-31.

Serial No. 09/393,998 Attorney Docket IMM060.RE

Applicant has amended claims 28, 31, and 35 to replace the reference to "said first and second dimensions" with "said first and second degrees of freedom." Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to claims 28, 31, and 35.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully asserts that in view of the amendments and remarks above, all pending claims are allowable and Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all claims.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, or suggestions of a nature necessary to expedite the prosecution of the application, or to place the case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Date: 3/4/2000

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